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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A combustion catalyst for treating a suspended particulate matter in a diesel exhaust gas, wherein said combustion catalyst comprises: a carrier ~~composed of oxide ceramic particles comprising a ceria-zirconia or~~ consisting of a ceria-praseodymium oxide; and a precious metal or an oxide thereof as a catalytic component loaded on the carrier.
2. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is composed of oxide ceramic particles further comprising yttria or lanthanum oxide.
4. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 3, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%, and a content of yttria or lanthanum oxide of 0.1 to 15 wt%.
5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component comprises ruthenium.
6. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 5, wherein the carrier has a loading of ruthenium of 0.1 to 10 wt% based on the carrier weight.
7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust

gas according to claim 1, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component is comprises iridium.

8. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 7, wherein the carrier has a loading of iridium of 0.1 to 10 wt% in terms of the carrier weight.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the precious metal as the catalytic component is comprises platinum or silver.

10. (ORIGINAL) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 9, wherein the carrier has a loading of platinum or silver of 0.1 to 10 wt% in terms of the carrier weight.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 5, wherein the catalytic component further comprises iridium and/or silver.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises iridium and, wherein a loading ratio of ruthenium to iridium (ruthenium:iridium) is 1:20 to 20:1.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises silver and, wherein a loading ratio of ruthenium to silver (ruthenium:silver) is 1:10 to 10:1.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 7, wherein the catalytic component further comprises at least one of platinum, rhodium, ruthenium, palladium and silver.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 14 which comprises platinum and, wherein a loading ratio of iridium to platinum (iridium:platinum) is 1:30 to 30:1.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 11 which comprises rhodium and, wherein a loading ratio of iridium to rhodium (iridium:rhodium) is 1:30 to 30:1.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is formed on a surface of a metal base via wash coating.

18. (WITHDRAWN) A method for combustion treatment of a diesel exhaust gas, comprising the steps of: collecting a suspended particulate matter in a diesel exhaust gas, and burning or eliminating the collected suspended particulate matter by the catalyst according to claim 1.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 2, wherein the carrier is composed of oxide ceramic particles further comprising yttria or lanthanum oxide.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combustion catalyst for treating a diesel exhaust gas according to claim 19, wherein the carrier has a ceria content of 45 to 95 wt%, and a content of yttria or lanthanum oxide of 0.1 to 15 wt%.